LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for producing a bobbin of wrapping material having a pattern of additive material applied thereto, the apparatus comprising:

(i) means for supplying from a first bobbin a continuous strip of paper web of a wrapping material for a smokable rod;

(ii) means for applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material to the paper web;

(iii) means for controlling heat to which the paper web is subjected; and

(iv) means for winding the paper web having the additive material applied thereto onto a roll, the roll comprising ~~to provide~~ a second bobbin of wrapping material~~, the wrapping material~~ having the additive material applied thereto.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the means for applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material comprises a roll application apparatus.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the means for controlling heat comprises a means for providing radiant energy.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the means for controlling heat comprises a microwave unit.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is adapted to employ a first bobbin of a continuous strip of wrapping material having a total length of about 6,000 meters to about 7,000 meters, and a width of about 25 mm to about 30 mm.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the continuous strip of wrapping material having a longitudinal axis and two major surfaces, wherein the apparatus is adapted to apply the pattern to one of the major surfaces as a series of virtually identical bands, each band having an inside

edge, wherein each band is essentially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the wrapping material, and wherein the apparatus is adapted to apply those bands spaced at no less than 15 mm and no greater than 25 mm from the inside edges of those bands.

7. (Currently amended) A process for producing a ~~roll~~ bobbin of wrapping material having a pattern of additive material applied thereto, the process comprising:

(i) supplying from a first bobbin a continuous strip of paper web of cigarette paper wrapping material;

(ii) ~~continuously~~ applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material to the paper web;

(iii) subjecting the paper web to application of heat; and

(iv) winding the paper web having the additive material applied thereto onto a roll, the roll comprising ~~to provide~~ a second bobbin of wrapping material~~, the wrapping material~~ having the additive material applied thereto.

8. (Original) The process of claim 7, further comprising subjecting the paper web to inspection after the additive material is applied thereto and prior to subjecting the paper web to application of heat.

9. (Original) The process of claim 7, whereby heat is applied using radiant energy.

10. (Original) The process of claim 7, whereby heat is applied using a microwave unit.

11. (Original) The process of claim 7, whereby the first bobbin provides a continuous strip of wrapping material having a total length of about 6,000 meters to about 7,000 meters, and a width of about 25 mm to about 30 mm.

12. (Original) The process of claim 7, whereby the pattern of additive material is applied using a roll application apparatus.

13. (Currently amended) The process of claim 7, the continuous strip of wrapping material having a longitudinal axis and two major surfaces, where~~by~~in the pattern is applied to one of the major surfaces as a series of virtually identical bands, each band having an inside edge, wherein each band is essentially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the wrapping material, and wherein the apparatus is adapted to apply those bands spaced at no less than 15 mm and no greater than 25 mm from the inside edges of those bands.

14. (Currently amended) A process for manufacturing a plurality of cigarettes each having a smokable rod circumscribed by a wrapping material ~~having additive material applied thereto~~, the process comprising:

(i) providing a first bobbin comprising a continuous strip of the wrapping material, the wrapping material having two major surfaces;

(ii) mounting the first bobbin on a first machine;

(iii) unwinding the wrapping material from the first bobbin using the first machine;

(iv) applying the additive material in a predetermined pattern to one of the major surfaces of the wrapping material;

(v) ensuring that the additive material applied to the wrapping material has a solid form;

(vi) winding the wrapping material having the additive material applied thereto onto ~~form~~ a second bobbin ~~of wrapping material, the wrapping material having additive material applied thereto~~;

(vii) removing the second bobbin from the first machine;

(viii) mounting the second bobbin on an automated cigarette making apparatus; and

(ix) using the automated cigarette making apparatus to manufacture a continuous cigarette rod by wrapping tobacco filler within the wrapping material having the additive material applied thereto supplied from the second bobbin.

15. (Original) The process of claim 14, whereby heat is applied using radiant energy in order to ensure that the additive material applied to the wrapping material has a solid form.

16. (Currently amended) The process of claim 15, further comprising subjecting the wrapping material to inspection after the additive material is applied thereto and prior to ~~subjecting~~ applying heat to the wrapping material ~~to the application of heat~~.

17. (Currently amended) The process of claim ~~16~~ 15, whereby heat is applied using a microwave unit.

18. (Currently amended) The process of claim 14, whereby the first bobbin provides ~~a~~ the continuous strip of wrapping material having a total length of about 6,000 meters to about 7,000 meters, and a width of about 25 mm to about 30 mm.

19. (Original) The process of claim 14, whereby the pattern of additive material is applied using a roll application apparatus.

20. (Currently amended) The process of claim 14, the continuous strip of wrapping material having a longitudinal axis ~~and two major surfaces~~, where~~by~~in the pattern is applied ~~to one of the major surfaces~~ as a series of virtually identical bands, each band having an inside edge, wherein each band is essentially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the wrapping material, and wherein the apparatus is adapted to apply those bands spaced at no less than 15 mm and no greater than 25 mm from the inside edges of those bands.

21. (Original) The process of claim 14, wherein applying the additive material comprises applying an additive material that includes an aqueous liquid.

22. (Original) The process of claim 14, wherein applying the additive material comprises applying an additive material that includes at least one starch-based material.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second bobbin is adapted to be removed from the apparatus and stored for later use in a cigarette making machine.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the roll application apparatus comprises:

a pick-up roller adapted to receive the additive material from a reservoir;

a transfer roller adjacent to the pick-up roller and adapted to receive the additive material from the pick-up roller;

an application roller having outwardly protruding dies, the dies in roll contact with the second roller and adapted to (a) receive the additive material to desired locations from the application roller and (b) apply that additive material to the paper web; and

a pressure roller (i) located in roll contact with the application roller and (ii) positioned such that the paper web passes between the application roller and the pressure roller where the additive material is applied to the paper web.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pattern of additive material applied to the paper web is adapted to alter performance characteristics of a smokable rod made from the paper web.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising means for controlling a speed of operation of the means for applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material to the paper web relative to a speed of travel of the continuous strip of paper web so as to control positioning of the additive material at desired locations on the paper web.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the means for winding the paper web onto a roll comprises a rewind unit, the apparatus further comprising means for controlling a speed of operation of the rewind unit relative to a speed of operation of the means for supplying the paper web from the first bobbin and a speed of operation of the means for applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material to the paper web.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a first unwind spindle assembly, a second unwind spindle assembly, and a web splicing mechanism.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is adapted to simultaneously produce a plurality of bobbins of wrapping material having the additive material applied thereto.

30. (New) The process of claim 7, further comprising providing the wrapping material having the additive material applied thereto from the second bobbin to a cigarette making machine for manufacture of a continuous smokable rod.

31. (New) The process of claim 12, wherein the roll application apparatus comprises:

a pick-up roller adapted to receive the additive material from a reservoir;

a transfer roller adjacent to the pick-up roller and adapted to receive the additive material from the pick-up roller;

an application roller having outwardly protruding dies, the dies in roll contact with the second roller and adapted to (a) receive the additive material to desired locations from the application roller and (b) apply that additive material to the paper web; and

a pressure roller (i) located in roll contact with the application roller and (ii) positioned such that the paper web passes between the application roller and the pressure roller where the additive material is applied to the paper web.

32. (New) The process of claim 7, wherein the pattern of additive material applied to the paper web is adapted to alter performance characteristics of a smokable rod made from the paper web.

33. (New) The process of claim 7, further comprising controlling a speed of applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material to the paper web relative to a speed of travel of the continuous strip of paper web so as to control positioning of the additive material at desired locations on the paper web.

34. (New) The process of claim 7, further comprising controlling a speed of winding the paper web onto a roll relative to a speed of supplying the wrapping material from the first bobbin and to a speed of applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material to the paper web.

35. (New) The process of claim 19, wherein the roll application apparatus comprises:

a pick-up roller adapted to receive the additive material from a reservoir;

a transfer roller adjacent to the pick-up roller and adapted to receive the additive material from the pick-up roller;

an application roller having outwardly protruding dies, the dies in roll contact with the second roller and adapted to (a) receive the additive material to desired locations from the application roller and (b) apply that additive material to the paper web; and

a pressure roller (i) located in roll contact with the application roller and (ii) positioned such that the paper web passes between the application roller and the pressure roller where the additive material is applied to the paper web.

36. (New) The process of claim 14, wherein the pattern of additive material applied to the wrapping material is adapted to alter performance characteristics of a smokable rod made from the continuous cigarette rod.

37. (New) The process of claim 14, further comprising controlling a speed of applying the additive material in a predetermined pattern to the wrapping material relative to a speed of travel of the continuous strip of wrapping material so as to control positioning of the additive material at desired locations on the wrapping material.

38. (New) The process of claim 14, further comprising controlling a speed of winding the wrapping material onto a second bobbin relative to a speed of unwinding the wrapping material from the first bobbin and to a speed of applying the additive material to the wrapping material.

39. (New) The process of claim 14, further comprising using the automated cigarette making apparatus to apply a glue line along a longitudinal edge of the wrapping material for forming a seam.

40. (New) The process of claim 14, wherein each smokable rod comprises two identical, spaced-apart bands of the additive material.